

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0081399 (Davis) or under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Davis in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,501,460 issued to Sisler. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 8-10, 12 and 15-19. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of Claims 1-20.

1. Objection to the Drawings

Applicants have amended Figure 2 and the Specification to indicate that a spring 50 bias the cam actuator to the closed position.

2. Rejections under Section 112, first paragraph

Applicants have amended Claims 9 and 10 to clarify that the latch has a blocking surface and an inclined surface as depicted by Figure 1B as numerals 34 and 36. Regarding the Examiner's rejection of Claim 17, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Figures 2 and 3 and page 6, lines 18 – 28. Before rotation, a missing portion of the cylinder of cam actuator 42 allows extension of the latch to the closed position. Rotation of the cylinder moves the missing portion so that the outer surface of cam actuator 42 pushes the latch to the open position. The outer surface of cam actuator 42 keeps the latch in the open position during further rotation until the missing portion realigns with the latch. The inclined surface 46 of cam actuator 42 pushes against the lid removal protrusion 48 in an increasing amount as cam actuator 42 rotates, thus moving the lid relative to the housing. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under Section 112, first paragraph.

3. Rejections under Sections 102 and 103

Davis discloses an information handling system having a hinged lid released to rotate to an open position by activation of a latch.

Sisler discloses a modular housing to connecting information handling system housings together.

Claim 1 as amended recites, in part, “an actuator coupled to the housing and accessible to the housing exterior, the actuator aligned to disengage the latch catch from the latch and to provide a lid removing force to the lid removal protrusion, the lid removing force sliding the lid relative to the housing to release the couplings from the coupling points”.

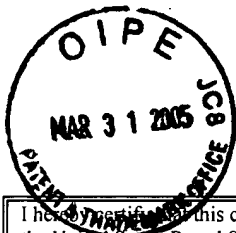
Claim 8 as amended recites, in part, “wherein the second surface pushes the lid a predetermined distance to disengage couplings that secure the lid to the housing, the couplings separate from the latch”.

Claim 15 as amended recites, in part, “pushing by subsequent cam actuator movement an inclined surface against the lid to slide the lid relative to the housing”.

Applicants respectfully submit that Davis and Sisler, taken separately or in combination, do not anticipate or make obvious Claims 1, 8 or 15 because neither Davis nor Sisler teach, disclose or suggest all elements recited by Claims 1, 8 or 15. For instance, neither Davis nor Sisler teach, disclose or suggest “the lid removing force sliding the lid relative to the housing to release the couplings from the coupling points” as recited by Claim 1, that the “second surface pushes the lid a predetermined distance to disengage couplings that secure the lid to the housing” as recited by Claim 8 or “pushing by subsequent cam actuator movement an inclined surface against the lid to slide the lid relative to the housing” as recited by Claim 15. The release mechanisms of both Davis and Sisler each directly release coupling points, such as hooks in slots. Applicants claimed invention releases a latch to allow movement of the lid relative to the housing by initial actuation, and releases the coupling points by subsequent actuation with movement of the lid relative to the housing. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 8 and 15 are allowable as are Claims 2-7, 9-14 and 16-20 which depend respectively from Claims 1, 8 and 15.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

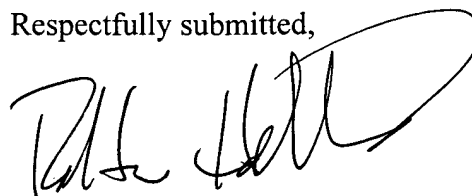


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 28, 2005.


Attorney for Applicant(s)

28 Mar 2005
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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In the Figures

Please amend Figure 2 as shown in red on the attached sheet.

A Submission of Replacement and Formal Drawings containing this amendment to the Figure has been sent to the Official Draftsman.

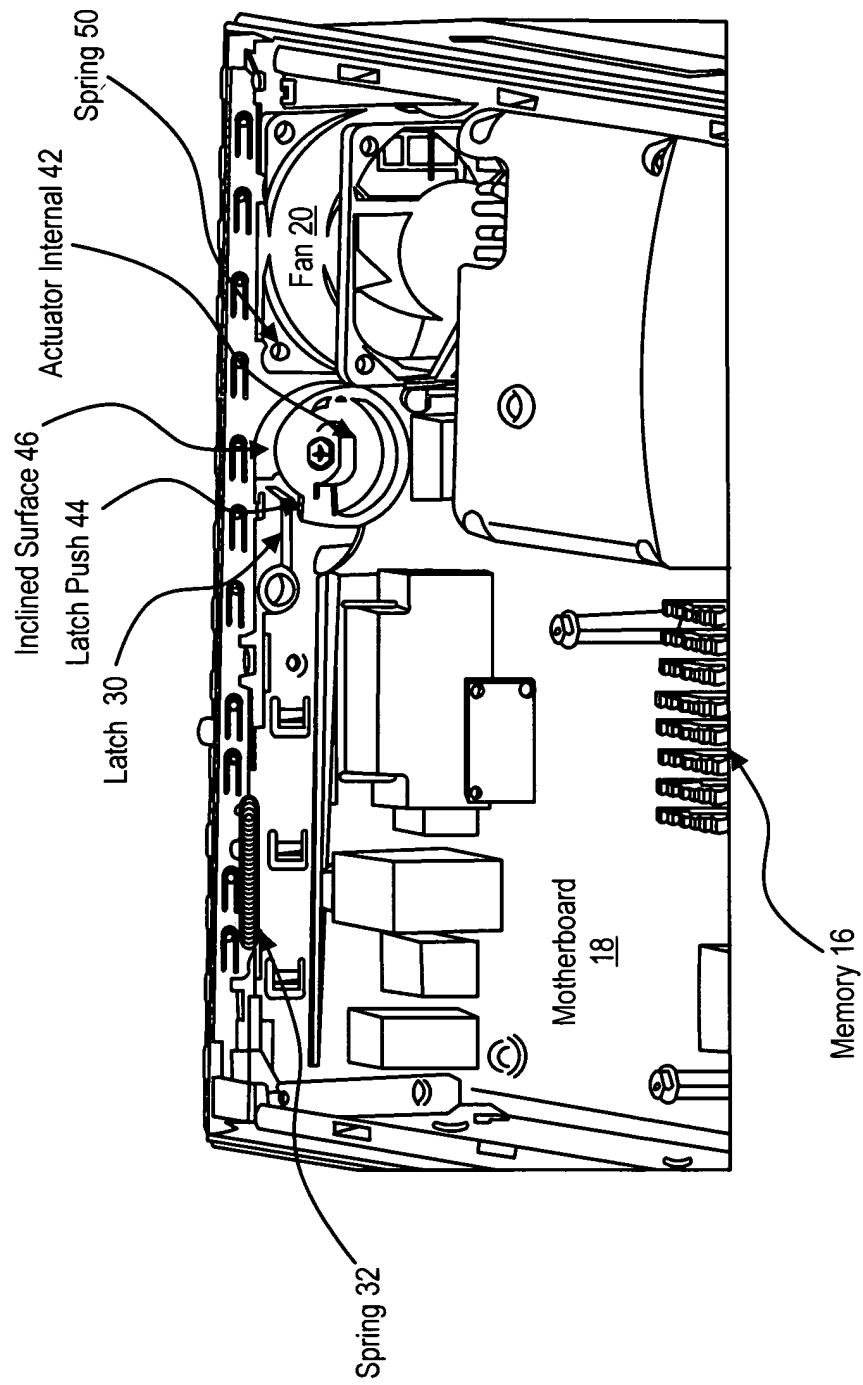
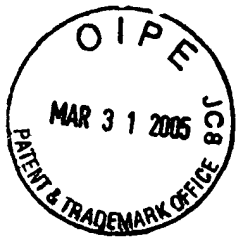


Figure 2